

Booneville Grandmother

Volunteer Need Takes Woman, 67, To Brazil



Sixty-seven-year-old Virginia Oakley left behind her home, family and friends in Booneville, Miss., to do what she terms "one more constructive thing before I die." A Christian and a retired teacher, she turned her life to short-term volunteer

missions through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Here she stands in Recife, Brazil, with some of her students from the American School. FMB photo by Glenda McCauley Miller.

By Glenda McCauley Miller
RECIFE, Brazil — One Sunday in Booneville, Miss., Virginia Oakley was browsing through the bulletin from the First Baptist Church of Booneville, while eating Sunday dinner.

An excerpt from *The Commission* magazine listed overseas jobs that could be filled by laymen. Some jobs required substituting for missionaries when they went on furlough; a bookstore in Nigeria needed a worker and a bookkeeping job was available in Thailand.

Virginia Oakley, age 67, immediately got out her stationery. She wrote: "If you have a job you think I can do, I would like to do one more constructive thing before I die. I have arthritis and some heart trouble but it is controlled with medication and I am able to work." She addressed it to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Mrs. Oakley had taught school for 23 years, served as a librarian and had also kept books for her husband. She had been a widow for three years. Deciding to mail the letter before she

changed her mind, she dropped it in a mailbox that Sunday evening.

Forty-eight hours later her telephone rang: "I'm Frances Gordon from the Foreign Mission Board, calling about your letter. Are you a certified teacher? We have an urgent request for an English teacher in Recife, Brazil, for a semester."

Mrs. Oakley was told that the school would provide an apartment but there would be no salary. She was assured that her Social Security check would cover her living expenses. Stunned by the call, she hung up the phone.

"What will my children say?" she thought. She hadn't even discussed this adventure with them. It had been less than two days since she wrote that letter. She had been certain she would have several months before making a specific decision.

Once again, she turned to the telephone. This time to call her doctor for his reaction about this unusual job offer. He enthusiastically encouraged her. She asked him to defend her plans if her children called.

The next obstacle was her teaching certificate; she hadn't taught in five

years. Another phone call assured her that her certificate was valid through 1978.

Less than two months later Virginia Oakley, in the snow and winter barrenness of Mississippi, boarded a jet and left behind her home, three children, seven grandchildren, her church, and her comfortable, predictable life.

Recife, which she had only read about from Rosalynn Carter's visit, was to be her new home — a capital city of 1.5 million. When the jet landed the warm weather and flowering tropical trees in vivid colors were a happy change from the severe winter she had just left. Mrs. Oakley settled into a modest apartment not too far from the American School.

Virginia Oakley's job would challenge even the most experienced teacher. She has 25 classes a week for her 41 students in grades seven through 12. Eighteen of her students are missionary children and others come from Germany, India, Mexico, Japan, Venezuela as well as Brazil and the United States. Some of the children

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The

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August 11, Jackson

Annual Youth Night Could Fill Coliseum

Jackson will play host to Baptist teenagers from across the state August 11, for the annual Mississippi Baptist Youth Night.

The event, largest of Southern Baptist meetings in the state, last year drew 9,500 to the Mississippi Coliseum, also site of the 1978 program.

Speakers for the meeting which begins at 6:30 p.m., will be Baylor Uni-

versity head football coach Grant Teaff and Phoenix, Ariz., pastor Richard Jackson.

Music will be supplied by soloist Cynthia Clawson and the Oklahoma City-based concert group, Bridge.

Teaff, who has been national and Southwest Conference Coach of the Year, is a trustee of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and wrote an autobiography entitled, "I Believe."

Jackson, a past president of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, is pastor of a fast-growing church. He has baptized 5,000 in the past 10 years there. Membership is more than 7,300.

He is a trustee of Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Tex.

Clawson wrote, along with her husband, Ragan Courtney, the Christian musical "Bright New Wings," which has sold 50,000 copies. She has appeared on several television shows and regularly makes college concert tours.

Bridge consists of 15 young adults including six vocalists and eight instrumentalists. They have performed all over the country.

All high school students are invited to attend. There is no charge for the program. Parking is free at the coliseum.

Mississippi Baptist Youth Night is sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Associational Officers' Training Set

The annual Associational Officers' Training Conference is set for August 26 in three meeting places around the state.

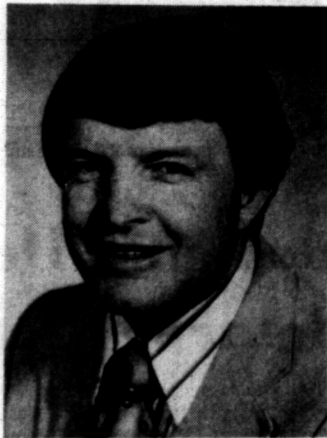
The conferences will meet simultaneously at First Baptist Churches of Columbia, Carthage, and Oxford from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

These are training conferences for associational workers in the following areas:

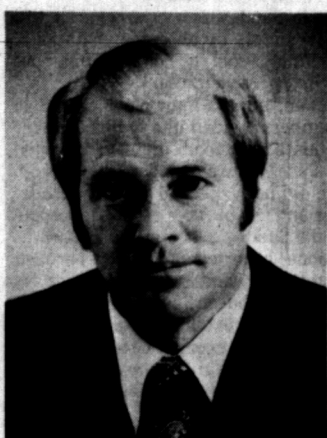
Directors of associational missions, (Continued on page 3)



Clawson



Teaff



Jackson

World Hunger Day

Suggestions On Observance

The SBC Christian Life Commission

1. Place World Hunger Day on your church calendar. If the SBC recommended date of August 2 is not the best day for your church, choose another time.
2. Since World Hunger Day is on a Wednesday, you may choose to plan a "hunger banquet" at the time of your regular Wednesday night church dinner. Serve only rice and water or bread and water or nothing at all and give the regular price of the meal through the Foreign Mission Board to relieve hunger. You may place information about the hunger problem at each person's place and have a devotional program about the Christian's responsibility to share. For a detailed program using a World Hunger Banquet, obtain a copy of the *Missions Night Out Resource Booklet*, jointly produced by the SBC Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union. It is available from the Baptist Book Stores.
3. Focus your Wednesday night Bible study on Bible teachings about hunger. The Christian Life Commission's pamphlet, "The Bible Speaks on Hunger," can be used as a guide for the study. Copies are available from the Christian Life Commission at a nominal charge.
4. Your Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union can sponsor mission action projects to help the hungry. A church food closet can be established or canned goods can be collected for the food closet of your association or another church. Local agencies which deal with hunger

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Home Bible Study Program Expects Large Audience

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — "At Home with the Bible," a weekly television and radio show that will highlight the new home Bible study program of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, will premiere in October on at least 15 television stations, five 50,000-watt radio stations, and more than 500 cable stations.

While the TV and radio programs are coordinated with the content of the "Home Bible Study Guide," people may participate in the Bible correspondence even if they do not see or hear the program, according to Don Fearheiley, supervisor of the Bible correspondence section at the board.

Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., is the host for "At Home with the Bible." The first segments will be taped in August at the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas. Each program will include Bible study on a topic of general interest, interviews and special music.

Mission To Honduras

Brent Thomas, a student at the Mississippi School of Dentistry, works on a dental patient in Honduras. (See story page 2).

Famed Baptist Pastor, R. G. Lee Dies July 20

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Robert G. Lee, three-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention and a leading SBC pastor for 50 years, died at home July 20 after a long illness. He was 91.

Lee, son of a former South Carolina share cropper, was pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis for 33 years, during which time the congregation grew from 1,430 to 9,200 — the largest SBC church east of the Mississippi and then the second largest in the convention.

He retired from the church in 1960 at age 73, but continued to keep a full schedule of evangelistic services until a series of heart attacks hospitalized him 15 months ago in Oklahoma City where he was preaching during a revival meeting. Lee convalesced at home before he began having heart problems again three months ago.

Lee was best known for his "Pay Day Someday" sermon, first preached at the First Baptist Church, Edgefield, S. C. in 1919 and more than 1,300 times since. The slow but powerfully developed story of divine retribution which takes a full hour to preach, has been filmed, recorded and translated into several other languages.

Lee wrote 53 books, averaged 12 visits to church members and prospects per day, and baptized converts every Sunday he was in the pulpit at Bellevue.

When asked by a young preacher in 1949 the secret of his renowned preaching, Lee "shook with emotion," a letter from the admirer said. "His voice (Continued on page 3)

Summer Missionaries See A World Of Extremes

By Betty Smith

Baptist students in Mississippi Colleges raised more than \$43,000 to send 58 of their fellow-students for a ten-week term as summer missionaries this summer. Their fields of service stretch from Mississippi to Kenya, from Alaska to Bangladesh. The type of mission service ranges from working with juvenile delinquents in a detention center to nursing in a hospital in Bangalore, India.

Five students, Daryl Coats, University of Southern Mississippi; LuAnne Travis, Blue Mountain College; Kathy Staggs, Ole Miss; Tom Martin and Anne Jones, Mississippi College, were sent to Kenya as a witnessing and singing group to participate in an Urban Evangelism Project. They report: "We went to a children's hospital and did a short puppet show and sang for them. We almost cried to see how

sweet and pitiful some of those kids were. One little boy there was born without a nose or lips, another boy could only drag his feet because of the knots on his legs, and one sweet girl was being released after having an eight-pound bone tumor removed from her face.

"She had such a good spirit, even though she is greatly scarred. This really hurt my heart, but it also showed us what a ministry we can have because God can overcome all barriers."

Van Stone, Mississippi College, is serving in Bangladesh. He writes: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The Telugu people are among the lower classes of this land of destitution, Bangladesh. They are reviled by the Moslems for their religion, for they are Hindus in a Moslem land. They are re-

(Continued on page 2)



Bridge is an Oklahoma City-based vocal and instrumental group.

Carroll, Montgomery Baptists Are Having Busy BMT Summer

The churches of Carroll and Montgomery Baptist Associations have felt the impact of Bold Mission Thrust. This has been shown through local and pioneer mission efforts. The Baptist Men in both associations responded to Baptist Men's Day with more than 80 men leading the services in 31 of the 40 churches, using the theme: "Men on Bold Missions."

Brotherhood directors, Morris Doler (Montgomery) and Joseph Sansing (Carroll) coordinated the teams in each association. The directors enlisted the men, assigned them in teams of three to each church, one was to lead singing, another give his personal testimony and another was to bring a message on Men in Bold Missions.

Jail Ministry

The Christian Action chairmen, Nell Whitfield of Carroll Association and John Kendrick, Montgomery, led their committees to adopt and promote several local Bold Mission projects, including a weekly jail ministry with 12 churches participating, and a literature, tract and Bible placement ministry, which places these in motel lobbies, hospital lobbies, jails, doctor offices, health centers and other places where it is usual to wait for an extended period of time. This is being done in Winona, Vaiden, Kiln, Duck Hill, Carrollton and North Car-

roll. Fourteen youths and three adults from eight churches in Carroll and Montgomery Associations became involved in Bold Mission activities in several churches of the Greater Detroit Baptist Association, Detroit, Michigan. Lowell Lawson, director, Detroit Baptist Center, coordinated the plans between the churches and Carroll and Montgomery director of missions, Lavon Hatten. Lawson was contacted by Hatten about the availability of the group and the possibility of their being needed in the Detroit area. Lawson presented the idea to several Detroit pastors who in turn contacted Hatten. Plans were soon completed and the youths and adults committed for June 16-23. The Vaiden Baptist Church loaned their bus for the trip. The youth were divided into four teams. Each team was invited to serve in a church. They were involved in Vacation Bible Schools, surveys, youth fellowships, etc. The youths provided for their own meals and lodging enroute, the Carroll and Montgomery Associations provided transportation and insurance and the Detroit area churches placed the group in homes during their visit.

Joe and Mae Hardin and daughter, Jana, along with other youths went July mission Vacation Bible School and other mission work in or near Grafton, West Virginia, July 6-16. The

initial contact was made through the associational director of missions and developed with the pastor/missionary and the Hardins. The First Baptist Church, Winona, has provided the VBS materials. Two adult Sunday School classes to which the Hardins belong, became interested in the mission plans and raised more than \$200 toward their expenses.

Invitation

John A. Wade, pastor of Vaiden Baptist Church responded to an invitation from the Home Mission Board to assist in a mission preaching situation in Ohio that could be the beginning of a new Southern Baptist Church.

Billy Joe Ferguson, a deacon, became interested in the Bold Mission challenge and agreed to accompany Wade. He is principal of the Vaiden Public School. The entire church became involved in the challenge and is providing much of the financial needs for the effort.

Bold Mission thrust has also been extended to the Foreign Mission field. Early in 1977, Rachel DuBard, missionary to Liberia, who is from Liberty Church in Carroll County informed Lavon Hatten, of vandalism at the Monrovia Youth Camp. They had suffered loss of all their kitchen equipment which could not be replaced from their budget.

Contact with the Foreign Mission Board showed that \$1,000 to \$1,200 would purchase the essential equipment to assure the opening and use of the camp for the peak season. Contact was made with the churches and eight in Carroll and Montgomery Association (North Carrollton, Liberty, Carrollton, Vaiden, First Baptist, Winona, North Winona, Scotland and Providence) responded to this need raising over \$1,400 for the project.

To the Carroll and Montgomery Churches, Bold Mission Thrust means discovering and enlisting interest, talents, and needs within its own area, in Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Wyoming, and in Liberia. And during the same time churches in Carroll Association have increased giving through the Cooperative Program 62% since

1974 and during the same period, Montgomery Association churches increased 56%. The associational budget has increased above 60%.

Missionary News

Faye Pearson, missionary to Taiwan, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 1113 Meadow Dr., Lake Charles, La. 70601). She is a native of Laurel.

Peyton and Celia Moore, missionaries to Hong Kong, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 1807 Elmhurst, Arlington, Texas 76012). He is a native of Meridian.

Harry and Donna Harper, missionaries to Colombia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 735 Reading Rd., Mason, Ohio 45040). Before they were appointed in 1968, he was pastor of Bethel Church, Liberty, Miss.

Barbara Smith, missionary journeyman to Tanzania, has completed her term of service and may be addressed at Rt. 1, Box 25, Vance, Miss. 38964.

Mike Carroll, missionary journeyman to the Dominican Republic, has completed his term of service and may be addressed at 1501 6th St., N., Columbus, Miss. 39701.

Peggy Hicks, missionary journeyman to Yemen, has completed her term of service and may be addressed at 908 Mississippi Ave., Greenwood, Miss. 38930, her hometown.

Minda Hogstrom, missionary journeyman to Gaza, has completed her term of service and may be addressed at 317 Bedford Ave., Birmingham, Ala. 35226. She was born in New Orleans, La., and also lived in Jackson, Miss., and Birmingham, Ala., while growing up.

Janet Mayhall, missionary journeyman to Brazil, has completed her term of service and may be addressed at 867 Adams Dr., Greenville, Miss. 38701.

Bob and Dolores Magee, missionaries to Colombia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401). Before they were appointed in 1970, he was minister of music and associate pastor of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton.



First row (l to r): Marsha Litchfield, Monica Powell, Ed Perkins, Carol Anthony, Diane Simmons, Second Row: Joanne Upchurch, Eddie Joe, Stacey Kinchen, Kathy Webster, Third Row: Jeff Powell, Cathy Harris, Deborah Smith, Rob Robertson, Jimmy Webster, (Johnny Hyde, not pictured).

Backpackers Will Sing At Parkway Church

The grandeur of God's creation will be celebrated July 30 and July 31 at Parkway Church, Jackson. The 15-member College Choir of Parkway will share Sonny Salsbury's Backpacker's Suite with the Jackson community at 7:30 p.m. in the Parkway sanctuary.

Following the experiences of a group of young people on a backpacking trip, the musical explores relationships between God and man.

The program has been presented in several parts of the state, including the

Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman.

Drama segments are directed by Anne Barlow. Music is directed by Ed Perkins, music assistant at Parkway. Rob Robertson is accompanist. Slide segments were designed by Creative Communications Systems of Clinton.

Mrs. Barlow noted that the songs and narrative represent personal testimonies of the cast even though the words and music were prepared by others.

Walker Named Director Of Education Commission

ASHEVILLE, N. C. (BP) — The Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention elected Arthur L. Walker Jr., as its executive director-treasurer during the commission's annual meeting in Asheville, N. C.

Walker, 52, vice president for student affairs at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will also serve as editor of "The Southern Baptist Educator," the commission's publication.

He will succeed Ben C. Fisher, by January 1, 1979. Fisher will take early retirement, September 1, 1978.

After 20 years as a faculty member and administrator at Samford University in his native Birmingham, Ala., Walker became dean of student affairs at Southern Seminary in 1976 and was named vice president earlier this year. He has also taught church history at the seminary.

At Samford, where he received his bachelor of arts degree in 1949, Walker taught in the department of religion and philosophy and served at various times as dean of students, vice president for student affairs, and vice president for administrative affairs, 1956-76.

Before joining Samford, Walker was pastor of churches in Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana and has served as interim pastor of 35 churches in Alabama and Kentucky since 1956.

He served as parliamentarian of the Alabama Baptist Convention, 1967-76, and for the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting last year in Kansas City, Mo.

After graduation from Samford he earned the master of divinity degree from Southern Seminary, and the doctor of theology degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He married Gladys Evelyn Walker, of Birmingham in 1949. They have two children, Marcia Lea (Mrs. Hugh P. Hamby) of Atlanta, and Gregory, a student at Samford.

Rome (RNS) — United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said here that the U.N. was preparing a special statement on religious intolerance and discrimination. On the question of the practice of torture and "cruel and degrading" treatment of prisoners in various countries, the U.N. Secretary General said his organization had actively committed itself to "strengthening and drafting international norms and procedures aimed at eliminating torture and other cruel, inhuman, and degrading practices visited upon detainees and prisoners."



Bryant Cummings gives last minute instructions to ACTION team. Shubuta pastor Avery Jones is at far right.

Shubuta Avoids Summer Slump With Campaign

An ACTION campaign June 4, and its followup has increased the Sunday School enrollment at First Baptist Church, Shubuta from 90 to 122, according to pastor Avery Jones.

The campaign began with morning services on June 4 led by Bryant Cummings, Sunday School Department director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

"No Sunday School or church will grow simply by absentee visitation," Cummings told the congregation "but by prospect visitation."

Then, after a light lunch, about 15 members divided into teams to cover Shubuta. One team member reported that she would participate even though she did not expect to get any results. She and her partner enrolled 5 people in the Sunday School of the church.

Jones reported a total of 14 enrolled that Sunday and in 5 out of 6 Sundays since, the church has had some type of decision made during services.

"We didn't experience a surge in attendance," said Jones, "but we haven't experienced that usual summer slump."

"At the present time we have had 27 new enlistments" said Jones, from a continuation of working on prospects, and "a few we can't account for in the

ACTION campaign.

"I'd recommend it (ACTION) to every other pastor, whether in a country church or not," said Jones.

The Sunday School Department of the state convention board, is promoting ACTION campaigns in associations in Mississippi. A number of associations are holding campaigns this September.

Should an associational ACTION campaign not be scheduled, churches may participate in the ACTION enrollment plan individually.

For information and assistance, contact: Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 354-3704.

Chicago (RNS) — Two of the "most basic" areas requiring attention in the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) are stewardship and evangelism, the new president of the 3.1 million-member denomination declared here. James R. Crumley, Jr., then added that "the Church is going to have to be more specific about questions on abortion and homosexuality."

Ruiz Goes To South Carolina

Frank Ruiz, missionary to the Spanish in the Mississippi Delta, has resigned to go to Columbia, S. C., where he will be pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista. His work begins there August 1.

Ruiz and his wife Lois will also be surveying the state of South Carolina to plan for establishment of Spanish work in different areas of the state.

Medicine, Dental Mission Returns From Honduras

Twelve Mississippians recently spent nine days in Honduras in Central America doing medical, dental, construction, and evangelistic work.

The group worked through the Laurel-based Honduras Baptist Den-

tal Mission in conjunction with Charlie Herrington, a missionary with Baptist International Missions Incorporated in Honduras (an independent organization). The team leaders were Jim Bishop, a dentist in Collins, and Sanford Beckett, associate pastor of University Baptist Church in Hattiesburg.

Other Mississippians included Edna Bishop, John Logan, Lewis Myrick, Bettye Pyron, Gerald and Pat Robertson, and Brent Thomas, all members of University Baptist Church. Others were John Bishop of FBC, Hattiesburg; Alvin Dahmer of Shady Grove Baptist Church in Hattiesburg; and Mike Harrison of Jackson.

The team members paid their own expenses to participate in the mission. They worked for five days in Jacaleapa, a village of some 4,000 persons. The medical team led by Gerald Robertson, a psychiatrist, treated 565 patients while the dental team led by Jim Bishop, treated more than 350.

Evangelistic services were conducted both day and night with seven conversions reported. The construction team completed a missionary residence and started the foundation for a girls' dormitory at a Baptist encampment.

Beckett reported that after the group told its story to other church members, a medical doctor said that "there's always something glamorous about being over there and this looks great. But why can't we do something in our own community?"

"We now have a couple of doctors who are looking into coordinating some health care work in our own community," said Beckett.

Summer Missionaries See A World Of Extremes

(Continued from page 1)

viled by the Hindus for their caste — or lack of it — for they are outcasts.

"Most men of this country would not lower themselves to eat in the same side-shop as a member of this tribe. Thus it is that the message of Jesus Christ has brought hope and a new self-respect to some of these who are so poor in spirit. Twenty-six converts to Christianity packed a bamboo hut,

Volunteer Need Takes Woman To Brazil

(Continued from page 1)

don't speak English well; many of them are fluent in three languages.

"I'll never stop thanking God for letting me come," she said. "These are most unusual students; it's an inspiration to be around them. They are above average students and show deep respect for older people. They are without racial prejudice."

Mrs. Oakley walks to a small English-language Baptist church located near her home and enjoys the warm fellowship. She has also found that the tropical weather has helped her arthritis.

Her enthusiasm about serving as a Southern Baptist volunteer is a living advertisement. She is fulfilling that desire "to do something constructive with her life." Her 10-year-old granddaughter proudly wrote, "Mama, I think it's 'neat-o' that you went to Brazil." Her 41 students agree.

(Glenda McCauley Miller is a Southern Baptist missionary press representative in North Brazil.)

smaller than my dormitory room at MC, for an evening of worship service. Scriptures were read by the light of a kerosene lamp; praises to God were sung, accompanied only by an instrument similar to bongos.

"Sitting on the floor in the hot, crowded room, unable to understand what was being spoken, I felt a deep thankfulness to God. Broad smiles were on their faces; the Telugus have found, as many of us across the world have found, that the love of Jesus Christ is available to all people — even the casteless ones."

Janet Lyle, a nursing student at the University of Mississippi, serves in the Baptist Hospital in Bangalore, India. She tells of her work: "It's something how God knows no language barriers. There is one girl, Girija, who is 16 years old and suffered severe burns about three months ago and is now undergoing some painful reconstructive surgery. She is a new Christian and Christians are her only family. Her family rejected her because of her burns and what they deem uselessness."

"I've found it a privilege to read scripture with her. God's Word is universal, and I can find English scripture and find it for her in her Kannada Bible, and she reads it to me. Such a new way to communicate but complete in God's Word."

Johnny Buckner, Mississippi State University, and Deborah McCarty, Blue Mountain College, are part of a 20-member singing and witnessing team in Southeast Asia. They write: "In Hong Kong we had the opportunity to ride on a Chinese junk (boat). We spent two days and one night on it. We were leading 18 Chinese young Christians in a witnessing training seminar. That was great."

"Buddhism is the official religion of Thailand, and if you are not a Buddhist you are a traitor to your country. We

have had so many opportunities — the young people have responded so well. We go to at least one university a day, and while there may be 3000 students, less than 10 are Christians. We will talk with the students as much as we can in English, and by the time for the program to start, the room will be filled — sitting on the floor, standing, in windows, everywhere. We sing and share our testimonies, using an interpreter many times. After we sing, we talk with the students. They have never heard of Jesus Christ and they ask so many questions."

Don Dent, Mississippi College, serves in Malaysia - Singapore as a preacher and youth worker. He reports: "Anna lives in a crowded apartment complex in Singapore. She is a 16-year-old Christian girl with a smile on her face and a gleam in her eyes that distinguishes her in any crowd. Her parents and many of her friends are Buddhist. She decided to follow Christ about two years ago, to the horror of her parents."

"In May, her father, a cab driver, was murdered, and immediately it was blamed on Anna's faith. She didn't know who to blame it on, but after a two-week struggle, she had defeated her doubts and became even more radiant. The small white piece of cloth pinned to her sleeve signifies that she is in a time of mourning for a close loved-one. Her face and voice tell plainly of her triumph, though."

"Anna has emerged as the natural leader of a large group of Christian young people. She is even considered a leader by older Christian guys in an area not deeply touched by the women's liberation movement. Even so, any close observer can see that there is a Liberation Movement in Anna's life."

(Next week's Baptist Record will give reports from BSU home missionaries.)



Betty Pyron (left) and Pat Robertson operate the pharmacy for the mission team.

Church Library Leader Wayne Todd To Retire



NASHVILLE — The staff of the Sunday School Board's church library department often say that the antique ladder Wayne Todd refinished is in his office for use when they cause him to "climb the walls." Caught in a moment of fun are (standing, l to r) Glynn Hill, Todd, Keith Mee, Floyd Simpson, John Hack, (seated, l to r) Carlton Carter, Mrs. Wanda Lineberry, James Rose and Jacquelyn Anderson.

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE — Wayne E. Todd, secretary of the Baptist Sunday School Board's church library department, will retire on August 31 after almost 20 years' service in that position.

A native of Wiggins, Miss., and one of six children, Todd graduated from high school in Hattiesburg during the great depression of the 1930s. Those circumstances postponed his college education, but after five years of working in various businesses, he was able to pursue a degree in business.

While attending Mississippi College, and serving as a student pastor of 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, Todd was asked by two of the church's members, Misses Annie and Genevieve Averett, "Can't we have a library in our church?"

Todd told them they could, provided they would lead the way, since, as he says now, "I didn't know how!"

They wrote to the church library department at the Sunday School Board for assistance and received the needed information and materials for beginning a library. Current records on file in the department indicate that the 38th Avenue church library was registered March 18, 1941.

Todd gives the two women credit for first channeling his interests to church libraries. During the entire 22 years he

spent in pastorates, he was instrumental in beginning libraries in the churches and missions he served.

He married the former Myrtis Haynie a year after her graduation from Blue Mountain College in Mississippi, and the same year he entered The Southern Seminary in Louisville to earn the bachelor of theology degree.

In 1958, while serving as pastor of First Church, Brookhaven, Miss., Todd was suggested as the man to fill the position of secretary of the church library department because of his work in strengthening and establishing church libraries during his pastorates.

He was hesitant to accept the position, however, because of his personal commitment to the pastorate. He was so hesitant that at one time after praying for many hours over the decision, he said, "I hope that spot's filled."

After discussion between Todd and Sunday School Board personnel spanning a period of a year and a half, and after declining the position four times, Todd assumed duties in Nashville on April 1, 1959.

"All through the years Myrtis and I have been very prayerful about where we'd serve," he said. "In reality, Myrtis could never see me leaving the pastorate. But when I came to the board, it was under strong conviction that this

was what God wanted me to do. The fact that I was leaving the pastorate to do library work caused some people to say I wouldn't last more than a year and a half," he laughed. "The conviction that this was the work for me has stabilized me when I've had other opportunities."

When Todd assumed leadership of the church library department, there were 6600 Southern Baptist church libraries registered with the board. At that time he set a goal of 25,000 registered libraries during his career. With a current total of 24,633 registered media centers, the goal should be attained before the end of August.

In 1959, there were 50 Baptist associations with a person responsible for church library work. Todd felt there should be a minimum of 1,000 associations promoting that work. Today, there are approximately 975.

Additional accomplishments include the addition of such aids as Media Library Services Journal (started under Todd's leadership as Church Library Magazine), the Media Center Development Plan, filmstrips, cassette tapes and numerous church study course books and other guidebooks to aid in media center organization and operation.

The most recently-added training feature is a new Media Services Diploma which may be earned by teachers, leaders and church media center staff members who participate in a comprehensive training plan through the church study course. As testimony to his unwavering interest in media center work and to his full participation in all that he promotes, Todd was the first person to earn the diploma with both the staff seal and the teachers and leaders seal. That's right, he took both courses.

Under his leadership, the department originated the idea of what is now the Broadman Readers Plan, and staff members enthusiastically endorse the Broadman Library Book Service and the Broadman CAVE Plan as economic ways to acquire resources.

For the future, Todd sees the use of microforms, pieces of film carrying printed materials to be read on a viewer, as a means to solve space problems in media centers. As we move further into the computer age, he envisions a form of interlibrary services where members of one church may have loan access to the media resources of another church. The common use of video tapes and the media center as the distributing agent for tracts and literature in the church are other dreams he has.

Of his own future, he sees the opportunity for more leisurely yard work, the restoring and refinishing of antiques and converting "junk" into useful items. But Todd's ministry will not end in August. He is exploring now the possibilities for ministry overseas at some point in his retirement, and he relishes the idea of short-term or part-time ministry in a local church.

For now, however, Wayne Todd continues his involvement in media center work at a pace that can only be described as vigorous.

"I honestly believe the potential for the person who is the librarian in a church is the greatest next to the pastor. If I were to go back to the pastorate where a church said I could have only one other staff member, I'd look for the best-equipped media center director I could find!"

Associational Officers' Training Set

(Continued from page 1)

moderators, clerks, missions committee chairmen, directors of evangelism, and stewardship chairmen;

Sunday school general officers, and directors of adult, youth, children's and preschool Sunday School;

Church Training general officers, directors of adult, youth, children's and preschool Church Training, and church recreational leaders;

Brotherhood directors, and Baptist Men's and Royal Ambassador directors;

Woman's Missionary Union directors, and directors of Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women, Acteens, Girls In Action, and Mission Friends directors;

Plus Church music directors, and pastors' conference leaders.

Each of these associational officers may attend expense paid to the nearest of these meetings. A complimentary lunch will be served.

R. G. Lee Dies at 91

(Continued from page 1)

trembled. His heart broke open. "I suppose," Lee said, "it is that I love Jesus. I love him more than anything in the world. He is so real to me. I would die for him. I would be a human bonfire for him." He turned to wipe tears away. "I love my wife. I love my daughter," he sobbed lightly, "but I love Jesus more. There is nothing I would not do for him."

Lee's wife of 57 years, Beulah, who died in 1971, once said that the only time she ever saw her husband lose his temper was when a little girl he baptized swam out of the water.

Lee was president of the Southern Baptist Convention for three terms, 1949-50-51, the last man in four decades to serve three terms. He was pastor of the First Baptist Churches of Edgefield, and Chester, S. C., and New Orleans, La.; Citadel Square Baptist Church, Charleston, S. C., and of Bellevue. He graduated from Furman University in 1913 and from Chicago Law School in 1919.

The power of his presence was impressive enough as he chaired the 1949 SBC annual meeting in Oklahoma City to warrant mention in even a London Baptist newspaper. When a motion was presented that threatened to divide the convention and appeared to have considerable support, he stepped to the podium and said, "Brethren, this motion is a mistake; it ought not to pass. I move that the whole matter be tabled." It was.

Lee planned his funeral in detail five years ago, specifying the "present pastor" of Bellevue, (Adrian Rogers) to preach the main message. He put a time limit on each participant, including Rogers.

Lee's body laid in state in the Bellevue sanctuary and the funeral was July 22.

Lee is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Ed King, Shelbyville, Tenn., and Hildred Phillips, Memphis; and a son, John, of Florida.

The Missions Task "Despise Ye The Church?"

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Department

Probably the most troublesome church to the Apostle Paul was the church at Corinth. Self-conceited, tongue-speaking, fractious, and shameless, the members received Paul's most severe rebukes. As he deals with their problems, it seems almost in desperation he asks them in I Cor. 11:22, "... despise ye the church of God?"

George W. Truett, in speaking of the church said, "The attitude that one bears toward the church is a matter of very large moment in the earthly life. One of the most arresting questions asked in the Bible is asked by Paul concerning our attitude toward the church. This is his ringing, surprising question, 'Despise ye the church of God?'"

What can be said of the church? It is the only institution fashioned and founded by our divine Savior and Lord. He said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it," and they have not through the long centuries. Though sorely persecuted, the church has endured through fire and sword, and has risen up from the debris and gone on conquering."

How does one despise the church? Truett mentions five ways: By non-attendance upon its services, by failing to make preparation for the worship services of the church, by lax religious beliefs, by wrong and inconsistent lives, and by unworthy giving to the church.

Truett continues, "If men think of giving as a kind of benevolence, or as a kind of philanthropy, they need to repent in sackcloth and ashes. A man's supreme business is his obligation toward God. God is the first Creditor to us all. Your gifts through the church will go further than through any other channel in the wide world. Jesus knew what he was about when he set in his church the right standards and methods for giving. A man ought to have a fixed percentage as a minimum, and over and above that, he should make thank offerings, gratitude offerings. But he should have the tithe as a minimum."

It is not that men and women openly oppose the church as much as it is that they neglect it. One is about as damaging as the other.

Some things are worth living for. One of those things is the Lord's work done through his churches. No greater privilege is granted us than that of being associated with that which Christ loves, and he loves the church. I believe that those who really love Christ will love the church also. In the New Testament the churches were at the very heart of what God was doing. Having worked for Baptists for 30 years and having passed a course in Church History, I can recall very little of an enduring or worthwhile nature that was accomplished in God's Kingdom apart from the churches. Wherever missionaries went in Paul's day and our's, churches came into existence. Wherever these churches have cooperated through associations and conventions they have done greater things. Because the majority of the churches cooperate today, they are doing great things.

The wise man of Proverbs says, "Where no wise guidance is, the people fail; but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety." Praying together, planning together, giving together, and going together is the way of God, the way to victory.

To merit such commitment and loyalty on the part of its membership, the church leadership must make certain that it is kept in the center of the Lord's will.

In my opinion, most laymen don't object to the church doing too much; what they really object to is the church trying to do too little!

World Hunger Day

(Continued from page 1)

often need help. The associational director of missions is usually able to offer other suggestions for mission action in your own community.

- Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union can plan programs which will educate their members and the entire church about the reality of hunger both abroad and at home. They can inform people of the work being done through agricultural missionaries and the hunger relief program of the Foreign Mission Board. Information needed for such programs may be obtained from the Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union, and the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.
- Preach on the responsibility of Christians to feed the hungry. Not everyone believes we have such a responsibility. Even among those who do believe we have a responsibility to act, not enough are really doing consistent work to alleviate the problem.
- Encourage church members to exercise effective Christian citizenship in order to encourage government representatives, officials, and agencies to act responsibly on behalf of the hungry.
- Invite a representative from a local hunger group to speak on hunger problems in the local community.
- In prayer meeting and in private devotions, pray for hungry people and uncaring Christians. Pray also for legislators, businessmen, and other persons who have the power to alleviate the agony of hunger.
- Distribute reprints of the World Mission Journal article entitled "What One Person Can Do About the World Hunger Crisis." The article lists practical suggestions for individual and group action. Encourage each individual in the church to examine his or her own lifestyle and take whatever personal actions God might inspire. Copies of the reprint are available free from the Brotherhood Commission.
- Provide your church members with information about how they can make regular contributions to help the hungry. Church members should be encouraged to channel their gifts for overseas hunger relief through the Foreign Mission Board. If they wish, members may covenant to do without one meal a week and to give the price of that meal to hunger relief.

Further information about hunger may be obtained from:
W. David Sapp
Christian Life Commission
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Inquiries about special hunger issues being dealt with by other agencies should be addressed to:

Norman Godfrey
Brotherhood Commission
1548 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38104

Paul Adkins
Home Mission Board
1350 Spring Street, Northwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Bobbie Sorrell
Woman's Missionary Union
600 North Twentieth Street
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Eugene Grubbs
Foreign Mission Board
P. O. Box 6597
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Workshop Will Deal With Church Ministry To Prisoners

Paul D. Schoonmaker, author of the book *The Prison Connection*, will lead a one-day workshop on "The Church and the Prisoner" in Hattiesburg, August 1, and on the Gulf Coast, August 2. The workshop is designed as preparation for Christian groups interested in beginning prison ministries.

A graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Schoonmaker is pastor of Royersford (Penn.) Baptist Church.

His book grew from the struggles and discoveries of a group of dedicated Christians in his church who saw and responded to the needs of inmates of Graterford Prison. Using the experiences of that group, he suggests ways

others may undertake such a ministry.

With the Scriptures as background and his book as text, Schoonmaker will help workshop participants to recognize the needs of prisoners; to identify problems in today's prison system; and to plan an effective program of ministry.

Coordinated by William Carey College, the workshop in Hattiesburg will be held in Wilkes cafeteria on the college's campus, while the Gulf Coast meeting will be at the Holiday Inn, Gulfport. Fee for each is \$19.00, with lunch provided at no cost.

For further information, contact William Carey College, Hattiesburg, at 582-5051, extension 286, or Carey on the Coast at 896-4455.

Life and Work Lesson

Living Together As Christians

By Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach
Colossians 3:12-4:1

"A bearded young university student remarked that he had begun as a Baptist, altered his faith to that of a Roman Catholic, and now was fully satisfied with his own privately developed religion." A person may develop his own religious ideas, thoughts and relationship to God. However, a religion in isolation is not the Christian way. "To be a Christian is to stand beside others in worship, in praise, and in redemptive relationship. It is to be in community with other Christians, giving thankful praise to God in worship and in everyday life."

Paul has urged the readers to put on the new humanity. He urges them to put on each item of the new creation (Colossians 3:12-17). Some have asked if these virtues are exhortation to be applied to individuals or to groups. The spheres in which the convert finds himself are church, home, employment, in private devotions, and before outsiders. All the activities of the Christian community reveal the new quality of life in a social expression. Corporately, as well as, individually the Colossians are to put on Christ.

Community life that is shared by individuals with different backgrounds, experiences and gifts needs the social lubricants of Colossians 3:12ff, if God's service is to be effective. Those virtues

are: sympathetic spirit, generosity of mind, a non-aggressive reaction, patience in the face of injury or insult, and forbearance. The fellowship of the community will depend upon the willingness to forgive. The Christian's social equipment is completed with love. All the virtues are bound together and all the people are bound together in love. "Love binds all the people together in Christ."

The peace of the community is the goal of the individual. The inner peace of Jesus Christ is an example for each believer. The idea of peace is to be the umpire (arbiter), the controlling motive for social and individual actions. Will the thought of action contribute to peace. "Let peace direct and discipline your conduct."

The key to the development of Christian character is to "do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." To do something in the name of another person relates to the intent of that person, to act in and with the support of his authority. Being loyal to Christ in the modern world means to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus!

Both inward peace and community peace depends very much upon the effort to be agreeable.

The community of believers is a worshipping body. The word of Christ probably refers to the Gospel that is the message about Christ. The three explicative participles — teaching,

admonishing, singing — leave little doubt that Paul is thinking of the corporate worship of the church.

If in the worship exhortation, teaching, and singing the word about Christ's riches is allowed to dwell... "Richly" there will be little opportunity for heresy. We are to submit to the demands of the Christian message and let it be so deeply implanted within us that it controls all our thinking. The experience of worship will help us have a Christian community of believers.

Living together as Christians in the home is a major responsibility. Moulton said, "Christian thinking has not become really Christian until it operates in our daily practice with those nearest to us." Paul places the emphasis of this passage on duties, not rights. "If each person will be solicitous of his duty toward others, the rights will be cared for." But remember the duties are shown to be reciprocal. That is, not all rights are one-sided. If the wife has a duty, the husband has a duty.

"Wives, submit yourselves... as it is fit in the Lord." The main idea is that the wife is to be willing to take second place to her husband. This is no way suggests the "iron hand" rule of a husband. It does suggest the husband's leadership, but he is also to be sensitive to his wife's "spirit" in making decisions. Remember, the wife's at-

titude is to be prompted by the husband's unselfish love.

"Husbands, love your wives." The husband is to have a caring love, a deliberate attitude of mind which concerns itself with the well-being of the one loved.

"Children, obey your parents." The child is to listen and carry out the instructions of the parents in a habitual manner. It is especially pleasing to God when believing children are careful to fulfill this duty.

Parents, be careful not to give in to fault finding and always be nagging your children. The reason being that parents who over-discipline create within the child the feeling that it is impossible to please.

The slave-master relationship was recognized as a reality by Paul and the Lord. The service of the slaves was not to be resentful, but as a testimony of grace. The masters were to treat their slaves justly and fairly, which redefines the slave as one having a right and a claim. The section on slave and master has implications for today's world for employee-employer relations.

The Christian faith is lived out in the context of community. "No man is an island." We are a part of a larger community. Jesus, help us live together to make a Christian community.



Music Leadership Mini-Week

Gulfshore — August 24-26

Special Program Guests

FULL TIME
MINISTERS OF MUSIC
Leroy Yarbrough
Dan Hall

PART TIME/VOLUNTEER
MINISTERS OF MUSIC
Gwen Hitt
Dan Hall

CHURCH PIANISTS
Jan King
Patsy Simpson

CHURCH ORGANISTS
Dot Pray
Sharon Lyon
Irene Martin

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS
Talmadge Butler
Ray Burdeshaw
Jane Burdeshaw
Sarah Talley

HANDBELL &
ORCHESTRAL
Lloyd Mims
Perry Robinson

WORSHIP LEADER
Frank Gunn

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

World Missions . . .

Questions For Us All

The death of missionary Archie Dunaway of McComb struck a note of sadness deep in the hearts of each of us. It may have caused also some to question Foreign Mission Board policy concerning such matters.

Rather than that, however, it should have caused all of us to examine our own priorities and to seek to determine our degree of dedication.

The answers to questions our missionaries face cannot always be formulated by convention policy or dictated by Foreign Mission Board orders. Many times they are found only in the hearts of the missionaries.

Missionaries take the Great Commission very personally. "Go ye therefore" to most of us means to give responsibly every Sunday and to make a worthwhile contribution to the special offerings for missions. The missionary reads that and it strikes him in a special way. He understands that it means for him, personally, to go.

Once there the missionary is not re-

quired to stay and involve himself and his family in personal danger. The Foreign Mission Board certainly does not insist on it. In fact, the missionaries know they are free to leave when they feel the time has come.

Why do they stay? Why was Archie Dunaway still at Sanyati? Why was Sam Cannata in Ethiopia until he was arrested for no reason? Why was Paul Smith still in Amman during a civil war that finally resulted in the death of his next door neighbor and his family being pinned down in an interior hall of their home to keep from suffering the same fate.

It is because they read the remainder of the passage and understand that "and, lo, I am with you always" is just as personal as "go ye."

The rest of us must admire their dedication and courage and honor their decisions.

The decisions are not easy. They are not super saints. They are people such as we are.

Those mentioned are either Missis-

sippians or have Mississippi ties. Stand with the writer for a moment in brief conversation with another Mississippian and see the sorrow etched in his face due to the illness of a young child that national doctors on the field of service cannot fully understand how to treat.

Read Stanley Stamps' report of problems in Nicaragua in last week's Baptist Record.

A very dear friend who is a missionary to Rhodesia sought the writer out during the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta for a brief visit. During the conversation he said he planned to return to Rhodesia following his furlough. He is not a Mississippian.

And a young Mississippi couple has just been named by the Foreign Mission Board to open work for Southern Baptists in Bolivia, where there has been news of political unrest lately.

We can't make the missionaries' decisions. We can and we must support them in whatever decisions are made. Through the years the Southern Bap-

tist Convention has become many things as it has tried to accomplish the task it has felt has been and continues to be laid before it. All of these things are or should be pointed in one direction — evangelism — or missions here and abroad.

The world is not getting better. In fact, we seem to be coming in no better than second in the effort to try to influence it. We are influencing a part of the world in the name of Christ, however, and the missionaries serving in hard places are responsible for a great deal of this influence.

"Go ye" is just as meaningful to each of us, however, as it was to Archie Dunaway and is to the others. We can pray, we can give, and we can work and witness here.

In the final analysis, we are all missionaries. How much are we influencing the world around us? The examples set by our missionaries at home and abroad should cause us to examine our own efforts to be sure they measure up to the Master's expectations.

Guest Opinion

Bold Missions? . . .

What Shall We Do With All Our Extra Money?

By Joe N. McKeever, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Columbus

Thirty thousand Baptist churches looked on longingly last year when a woman left two million dollars in her will to a country church up the road a few miles from here. What my church could do with that kind of money, we all thought. We dream of our churches experiencing that kind of sudden prosperity.

Yet this is precisely what is occurring in hundreds of Southern Baptist churches. They experienced good growth in membership, and church income goes up accordingly. In some cases their budget income doubles in four or five years — budgets of a half-million dollars and more.

So the membership finds itself faced with the same decision as our friends in the next county with the two million — what to do with this newfound wealth. It is sad to see that many of our churches are failing miserably the test of new wealth: they are choosing to spend the money on themselves.

The process is deceptively simple and natural. A million dollar gymnasium would be nice . . . with architecture that blends with the sanctuary, of course. A full renovation of the educational building with expensive furnishings is always in order. Then we could add another staff member. Naturally, he will need an office and a secretary. And perhaps we should telecast our worship services — even if other local Baptist churches are doing so and the area is saturated. It is amazing how creative we can become when we begin rationalizing our self-indulgence. J. Edgar Hoover used to say that no one ever committed a crime without first justifying his deed in his own mind.

A Staggering Need
I sat in a meeting of the Foreign Mission Board in April. In two quick votes, the Board spent \$150,000 to buy nothing. The value of the dollar had sunk so low in a number of countries, our missionaries were finding it difficult to survive. So a cost of living raise had to be given to several hundred people just to keep them at the same level where they had been.

The Board then discussed the poor financial outlook facing the International Baptist Seminary in Switzer-

land. This year its deficit will be perhaps \$100,000 because the American dollar is losing its value so rapidly. Soon a difficult decision concerning the future of the seminary must be made.

The leaders of our foreign mission enterprise take seriously the plan to have 5,000 career missionaries on the field in 22 years. Our denominational leaders have challenged our 35,000 churches to double the Cooperative Program giving by 1982.

While these challenges seem plenty bold, consider what will be necessary by the end of the century. To support one missionary family on the field will cost \$103,000 annually. The Lottie Moon offering (around \$32 million last year) will have to be \$150,000 million in the year 1999! All of this is based on an annual inflation rate of six percent. A dismal picture, to be sure.

Yet back at home in our churches it's business as usual. So many seem content to up the Cooperative Program a little over last year and to give normal emphasis to the Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon offerings. The big money, however, we spend on ourselves.

Misplaced Priorities

I read the same church bulletins you do. The one from the church which takes an annual offering of \$70,000 for local needs, yet its total Cooperative Program giving in a full year is slightly over \$50,000. And the bulletin from the church running 1,300 in Sunday School that wrote "Bold Goal" over its Home Missions offering target of \$2,000. Their weekly offering is \$15,000! And who can take the time to count the bulletins of churches that talk glowingly about the Great Commission, but set mission offering goals no higher than one week's budget income. The actual number would shame us all.

Who Can Speak Up?

Our missionaries feel the contrast deeply but are too considerate and kind to embarrass a host church by condemning its materialism. One missionary saw his dream for a strategic worship center in a populous Asian city discarded because the needed \$250,000 was not available. Yet on his return to the states, he watched in silent anguish as one neighborhood church spent half that much on a parking lot!

Our denominational executives rarely mention this disparity, except in a general way. They feel, with some justification, that the pastors would interpret this was criticism or that someone would take it personally.

Only a foolhardy pastor would write an article about this problem, since in one way or another most of us are guilty. We all want as much salary as the church will give us and a house that is comfortably furnished. We suffer the same temptations as our members when it comes to expensive investments in buildings and furnishings.

Some Are Responding

Across town from my church is a fine neighborhood congregation that is taking seriously the Lord's mandate. They have prayed and talked and planned as to how they can double their Cooperative Program giving by 1982. Their decision was to increase the percentage each year.

Scattered throughout our state are a precious few churches that give a minimum of 25 percent, 30 percent, or more to God's work outside their build-

ing. Invariably, they have done so because of strong leadership which has brought them in this direction.

God is raising up more and more churches which send their members each year to erect buildings for struggling congregations in pioneer areas. These people are not content to live in a cathedral when the Christians up the road can't afford a chicken coop.

A Time For Radical Discipleship
I am a dyed-in-the-wool Southern Baptist. I love our denomination. Furthermore, I count not myself to have attained or to be guiltless on this subject. But it is disturbing the way our leaders find new directions, new goals, and new terminology to challenge us into greater service — only to watch as we strip the labels from these exciting packages and apply them to our tired, drab, lifeless efforts.

The solution is a rebellion of concerned preachers, staff members, and lay-people who will stand up and put a stop to the ungodly materialism that holds our churches in a death-grip.

I would love to see us draw a line and say this much we will spend on local

needs, but every dime beyond this will go to take the Gospel of Christ into the world. Are there churches that could live on 25 percent of their incomes and spend 75 percent into the needy areas of God's Kingdom?

I keep thinking of a preacher and his wife who came upon a scene where a father was rescuing his two children from a burning house.

Next Sunday the preacher illustrated his sermon with the story of how he and his wife watched a desperate father rushing into the home to bring out his two children. Later, on the way home, he remarked that the congregation had not responded to the story; they had only stared at him. The wife replied, "You forgot to tell them the house was on fire!"

When the needs of our lost world are so critical, when the opportunities before Christians are so thrilling, but when we go on with business as usual building monuments to someone's ego, the only conclusion is that someone has failed to tell God's people the house is on fire. God grant that we will get our priorities right while we still have time to do some good.

Letters to the Editor

Gulfshore Family Loses Possessions

Dear Editor:

The family of Frances Parrish, of the housekeeping staff at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, lost all their personal belongings in a fire that razed their house trailer on the morning of July 21. The family of 6 did not suffer any physical damage but the home and all contents were completely destroyed.

Any individuals or churches who wish to contribute to the recovery of this family may send contributions designated to this cause to Frank Simmons, Manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Mississippi, 39571.

If anyone wishes to donate clothing, their sizes are as follows: Mr. Parrish, size 36 trousers, size large shirt, size 9½ shoe; Mrs. Parrish, size 20 and size 9 shoe; a girl, size 14 and size 8½ shoe; 1 boy, size 12 and size 7 shoe; 2 boys, size 10 — one boy wears a size 3 shoe, the other a size 4 shoe.

— Frank Simmons, Manager
Gulfshore Baptist Assembly

Appreciation For Service

Dear Editor:

I am chairman of the Deacons at Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi and I am writing this letter on behalf of our former pastor, Dr. Bob N. Ramsay. After nine years of service to our church, Dr. Ramsay announced his resignation effective June 30, 1978, to enter a varied ministry, including evangelism, writing, interim pastorate, pulpit supply, teaching counseling, and travel.

Accepting our pastor's resignation, we pledge to him our prayers, love, and support; and we feel that the coming years will be the most fruitful and rewarding of his career.

Dr. Ramsay has served on executive boards and committees of the states in which he has pastored and other boards and commissions at the state

and national level. His many friends and acquaintances surely will take the opportunity to utilize his many talents.

Robert K. Upchurch
Calvary Baptist Church
Tupelo

Ruiz Is Leaving

Dear Sir:

As I will be leaving soon, for Columbia, S. C., I want to thank each and every person, through the state, that I have had the joy and privilege of meeting. As your language missionary, I have had many opportunities to share my work in the Delta with you, and inform many of you for the first time, the need among the Spanish-speaking.

I have found the people of Mississippi ready and anxious to get involved in the Lord's work. I will leave my position on July 31, 1978, and begin my new work on August 1, 1978.

I am proud to have been a part of Mississippi Baptists for the past 22 months.

Your Servant in Christ,
Frank G. Ruiz
Delta Language Ministries
Box 505
Cleveland, Ms.

Senior Citizens' Home

Dear Editor:

I hope that you are in tune with many Baptists of Mississippi with whom I have spoken, and I truly believe that you are; for you, like your predecessor, Dr. Joe Odle, have shown a developing spirit of progressiveness that has caused our Mississippi Baptist weekly paper to be read and enjoyed by Baptists everywhere.

My earnest wish is that you will use your great editorial strength to create a fire under some of the Big Wheels in our denomination and that a retirement home for senior citizens in Mississippi be established.

A sister denomination has a lovely retirement home in Tupelo, Miss. I have been told that two more will be built shortly for north Mississippi.

Where there is
Hunger,
there is pain...
much pain,
constant pain.

We can stop it.

OBSERVE WORLD HUNGER DAY
AUGUST 2, 1978

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Orvil Is Still Jogging

A large group of senior citizens from First Church, Hazlehurst were among the many visitors at the Baptist Building last week.

And I had a letter from two of my favorite senior citizens, Alma and Orvil Reid. (I confess I never think of them as senior citizens, for though they retired as missionaries to Mexico about three years ago, they are so active and enthusiastic and energetic that I think of them as young people.)

In the fall of 1976, Orvil jogged from Atlanta to Richmond. Remember? Last year he and Alma were in Europe and Africa and he gave his astounding athletic demonstrations hundreds of times. One of the kings in Africa saw a rock placed on Orvil's stomach and broken with a sledge hammer; he saw a van driven over Orvil's stomach. Then the king asked Orvil for something to make his stomach strong, too. Also, Orvil preached 150 times in Africa to over 150,000 people and thousands made decisions.

On February 4 of this year Orvil had a stroke — his left side paralyzed and occlusion of the carotid artery — caused, the doctors think, from the athletic demonstration where ten men try to choke him with a rope.

He spent three weeks in the hospital, two weeks in a rehabilitation center in Dallas, Tex., and then continued outpatient therapy.

Because of his superb physical condition — and because God answered many prayers — his improvement has been amazingly rapid.

This summer he and Alma are working in Baptist camps in Oklahoma and

Texas. They spent four weeks at Camp Hudgens in McAlester, Okla., then went to an Indian camp near Wilburton for a week, and are now in the midst of a five-week stay at Falls Creek. After August 20 their address will be 843 N. Zang, No. 140, Dallas, Tex. 75208.

If you know Orvil, you won't be surprised to hear that he is still jogging. Alma wrote me that "his left leg and arm are not as limber as they should be, but we are working on that. He began jogging even when he had to walk with a cane, and in therapy he did all of the exercises they asked him to, and more. He doesn't have to use a cane now."

The Reids are teaching two mission classes each day at camp and he brings the campfire messages and sometimes preaches on Sundays.

"The first week at camp," Alma reports, "Orvil fell when he was jogging down a gravel mountain road. He told the nurse that he was trying to kiss the Oklahoma soil (he is from Oklahoma). With the exception of cuts and bruises, the doctor said he was all right."

"Now we have worked out a system where I can jog with him. He jogs ahead of me a short distance; then he jogs back and meets me. We jog (Orvil does — I walk and jog) an hour before breakfast and we walk an hour in the afternoons. I am a city girl and not the athletic type, but now I even go past houses with barking dogs."

After Orvil's stroke, many prayers were prayed for him in Mexico and in the United States and in other lands. In answer to those prayers, Orvil continues to run.

Thanks For Gulfshore

Dear Editor:

A Thank You note is in order to Mississippi Baptists for the great week my family had last week at Gulfshore. We went to Family Life Week sponsored by the Christian Action Commission and directed by Dr. Clark Hensley.

The program and the guest speakers were excellent — which is what we expected from Clark.

The facilities and the people who make them work were first-rate. Frank Simmons and his staff have worked long and hard to make it all just right.

So thanks, Mississippi Baptists, for a great week at Gulfshore from the Street Family.

Lynda L. Street
Wiggins

Book Reviews

COPING WITH BEING SINGLE AGAIN by J. Clark Hensley; Broadman; 136 pages; \$4.95.

The author builds upon his previous work, *Help For Single Parents and Those Who Love Them*, and offers suggestions for coping with most aspects of being single again.

Based upon the biblical concept of "created in the image of God," Hensley asserts that the single is complete — a whole person. While the single-again suffers loss, he does not lose his personhood. Grief is a common bond between the widowed and the divorced. Divorce terminates a relationship that has been significant, meaningful, and perhaps scriptural; but divorce is not the unpardonable sin, he states.

Creative and destructive responses to the stigma of divorce are discussed. Other chapters deal with coping with grief and guilt, coping with loneliness and boredom, coping with special anxieties such as health, child-care, money, sexual adjustments, and the question of possible remarriage. All these and others are treated. The final chapter deals with resources for coping from within the person, his church, his pastor, and his community. Some

thoughtful counsel is given on "Should a single-again become a helper to another?"

This discussion of a problem which faces so many in our nation should inspire those who are coping to keep trying and encourage churches and pastors not to overlook them. It could serve as a study for those churches which are moving toward a ministry to the formerly marrieds.

Hensley, a counselor and family life specialist, is the executive director of the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention. He is the author of eight books.

PROMISES KEPT by Bonnie Ball O'Brien (Broadman, 166 pp., \$5.95) Here is a collection of gripping narratives — stories of people who have made promises to God, and have kept their promises. It emphasizes the fact that God leads and blesses those who will follow Him. All the people whose stories are told here are Baptists and all have been in some way associated with New Mexico. Yet the truths expressed apply to Christians everywhere. The author is the wife of the executive director of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico.

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Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

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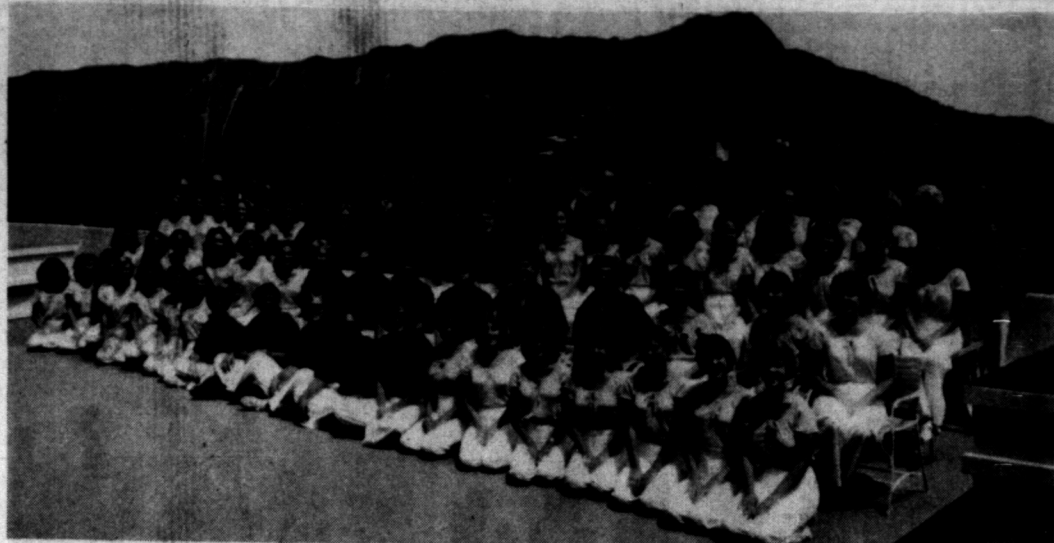
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The Revelation Sings In Hawaii

Hawaii was recently touched by a ministry from First Church in Jackson, which sponsored a tour by the Revelation Choir to the islands. The group, under the direction of minister of music Larry Black, is composed of high school and college singers. The 75 youths were accompanied by 20 sponsors, complete with a band and media crew for video-taping some of the performances.

Their bus driver, a native Hawaiian, found Christ through the witness of Revelation members.

The choir performed concerts in the heart of the Waikiki Beach area, at a shopping center, on the beach, and at a bandstand at the park.

They sang in four churches — Olivet, Waialae, University Avenue, and Waikiki. On Sunday morning they sang on the beach at a worship service sponsored by Bob Turnbull, Chap-

lain of Waikiki.

One highlight of the tour was marching in the annual King Kamehameha Day Parade.

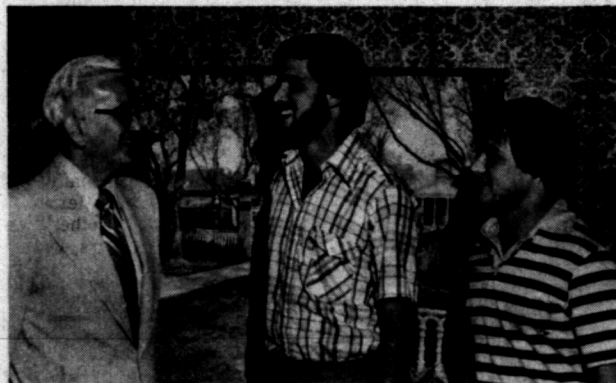
Choir members wore backpacks equipped with individual microphones for each singer, which were loaned for the trip by First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas.

Their return home was the occasion for their annual Homecoming Concert. The performance, held on the parking lot of the old Sears building across the street from First Baptist, attracted more than 500 people. The concert consisted of material performed on the tour, plus testimonies of several choir members. It was video-taped to put together, along with footage taken in the islands, a program to distribute as part of the church's television ministry.

NAMES IN THE NEWS



Enon Church, Pine Barren Association, Camden, Ala., ordained David Randall (Randy) Futral, Sr. to the gospel ministry on July 5. Futral is the son of Mrs. Guy C. Futral, Sr. of Greenwood and the late Guy C. Futral, Sr. He is enrolled at Clarke College. Futral and his four brothers participated in the ordination. Left to right, Guy C. Futral, Jr., pastor of First Church, Covington, La., who delivered the charge to the candidate; James R. (Jim) Futral, pastor of the Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport, who gave the charge to the church; Randy Futral; Tommy Futral, detective on the Greenwood Police Department, Greenwood, who read the scripture and led in prayer; and Larry Futral, minister of music education at the Camden Church, Camden, Ala., who presented the special music.



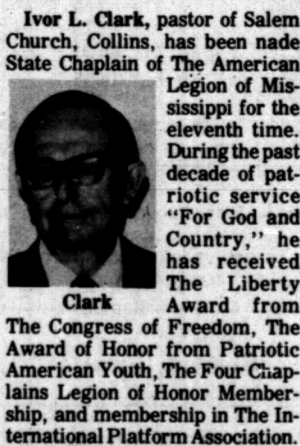
Two Mississippi College students have been participating in the President's Honors Scholarship Program at New Orleans Seminary. Andy Taggart, of Moss Point, and William Townsend, Jr., of Jackson, were chosen to participate in the June academic program. During the month, the two attended regular scheduled classes with other seminary students. In addition, they lived in campus housing and had most of their meals provided for them. The two were among ten college and university students chosen on the basis of scholarship, leadership and commitment to the ministry by the faculty of the religion department of their respective institutions. — (NOBTS photo by Richard Dodge)

Thirteen of the 50 graduates from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis, in May, 1978, were from Mississippi. They are Joe Jefcoat, Rolla Utley, Laddie Pierce, Dennis Cleveland, John Webb, P. J. Scott, David Shepherd, Nolan P. Houser III, Charles Grigsby, Gary Black,

Mike Howard, David Jeans, and Noel Wright. Of the 13, Jefcoat, Utley, and Pierce received the Diploma of Theology. Wright and Houser received the Master of Arts in religion and education. The remainder received the Master of Divinity degree.



Garland Robertson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Robertson of Collins, has been ordained to the gospel ministry by the Salem Church. Perry G. Robinson, minister of music and youth of the church, delivered the ordination message. Robertson's father presented the Bible, and his brother-in-law, Earl C. Watson of Clewiston, Fla., led the ordination prayer. Ivor Clark, pastor of the church, was chairman of the council. Robertson is a graduate of Mississippi State University, and is a third year student at Southwestern Seminary. He served as pilot in the United States Air Force for eight years, attained the rank of captain, and is back on active duty for the summer, serving as chaplain. He is married to the former Marsha Lee Maxwell of Enid, Okla., and they have two children.



Clark Award from The Congress of Freedom, The Award of Honor from Patriotic American Youth, The Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Membership, and membership in The International Platform Association.

Mrs. Nola Granberry of Gulfport was among 18 adults who received certificates of achievement upon the successful completion of a missions and language study course held this summer by the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio, Tx. The certificates were presented at a banquet held on July 20 at the San Francisco Hotel in Mexico City, where the group spent the last week of the session. Those completing the highly accelerated program of study this summer are missionary appointees, volunteers with the Mission Service Corps, under the Southern Baptist Convention, or workers in Baptist churches and missions among Spanish-speaking people. Mrs. Granberry recently received an appointment as a volunteer, under the Foreign Mission Board, to work at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Tx. She will edit books in Spanish. Prior to her retirement in May, she taught Spanish and journalism at Gulfport High School, Gulfport.

Crestwood Church, Jackson: July 23-28; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; Tom Hudson, pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson, evangelist; Bill Rice, music director; Houston Haynes, pastor.

Myrick Church, Laurel: July 23-28; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; Jerry File, pastor of Second Avenue, Laurel, evangelist; Dan Johnson of Myrick, in charge of music; Harold Walker, pastor.

Rock Hill Church, Brandon: July 30-August 4; S. W. Valentine, pastor of Union Church, Puckett, evangelist; Gale Martin, minister of music at Rock Hill, leading the singing; Sunday at 11 a.m. with lunch at the church; afternoon service at 2; and no night service on Sunday; through the week at 7:30 p.m.; Vance H. Dyess, interim pastor.

First Church of Helena: July 23-28; Lawrence Tapp, pastor of Bellehaven Church, Ocean Springs, evangelist; Mike Chandler, minister of music at Four Mile Creek, Escatawpa, music evangelist; Bill Barton, interim pastor.

Oakland Church, Corinth: July 23-30; Benny Jackson, Memphis, evangelist; Tommy Vinson, pastor; John Joiner, minister of music and youth; Sunday at 10:55 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; weekend services at 7:30.

Calvary Church, Silver Creek, (Lawrence): July 30-Aug. 4; at 7:30 nightly; Steve Johnson, Tampa, Fla., evangelist; Larry Wimberly, Calvary, Silver Creek, music evangelist. Doug Warren, pastor.

Mt. Vernon (Holmes): July 30-Aug. 4; services at 7:30 nightly; Tom McLaughlin, evangelist; Greg Moore, music evangelist; Carlton McNeer, pastor.

Silver City: July 23-28; Hiram L. Harrison, pastor of Ocean View Church, Norfolk, Va., evangelist; Solie Everitt, minister of music and youth at First, Belzoni, directing music; Mrs. Betty Lipe, instrumentalist; Mon.-Fri. at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Clyde C. Carraway, pastor.

McAdams Church (Attala): July 30-Aug. 4; Jerry Bishop, pastor, First, Lauderdale, evangelist; Bob Taylor, minister of music, First, Kosciusko, music director; services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Joe Anderson, pastor.

Valley Park (Warren): July 30-Aug. 5; James E. Messer, evangelist; Gary Hodges, singer; Lyn Turner, interim pastor; services nightly 7:30 with weekday morning services 10 o'clock.

Sandy Hook's 75th Anniversary

Sandy Hook Church will celebrate its 75th anniversary on July 30. It will be homecoming day for church members and former members, and homecoming day for the guest speaker, Jerry A. Passmore of Pensacola, Fla., who served the church as pastor while he was in the seminary.

There will be morning and afternoon services and dinner on the grounds Sunday but no night service, according to the pastor, Floyd Beeson.

Also a revival begins at Sandy Hook July 30 and will continue through August 2. Passmore will be the evangelist. Rex Lucas of Shiloh Church will direct the music. Services Mon.-Wed. will be at 7 p.m.

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Revival Dates

Providence, Pearl: July 31-Aug. 4; services at 7:30 p.m.; Burford Easley, Williams Boulevard Church, New Orleans, La., evangelist; Harry Gipson, pastor; Sammy McDonald, music director; special music each night.

Oral Church near Sumrall: July 30-Aug. 4; Troy A. Sumrall, director of missions, Perry County and former pastor at Oral, evangelist; Dallas Rayborn of Hattiesburg, song leader; H. L. Deason, pastor; homecoming and old-fashioned dinner on the grounds on Sunday, July 30; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

West Jackson Church, Jackson: July 30-Aug. 4; Sunday is homecoming day with dinner on the grounds and services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; during week at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Jack Nazary, former pastor at West Jackson, now at Colonial Hills, Southaven, evangelist; Mrs. Jerry McLendon, organist; Cheryl Crawford, pianist; Jerry Fugate, Colonial Hills, Southaven, in charge of music; Dewitt Mitchell, pastor.

Ridgeway Church, Vicksburg: July 23-30; E. R. Pinson, formerly of Mississippi College, evangelist; R. E. Paine, pastor; Sunday at 11 a.m. evening services 7 nightly except Sat.; July 30 will be homecoming day with dinner-on-the-grounds; July 22nd, a fish-fry was held in Fellowship Hall.

First, Lake (Scott): July 30-Aug. 4; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. during week at 7:30 p.m.; J. B. Miller, pastor; First, Carthage, evangelist; Harry Daniels, First Carthage, music evangelist; Wesley Miley, pastor.

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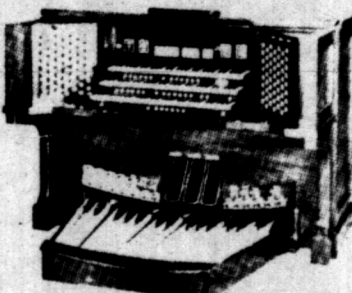
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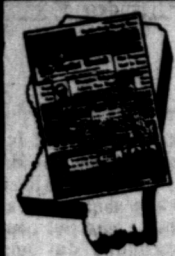
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Alleluia To Sing At City Auditorium

Alleluia, a group of young married adults from Calvary Church in West Point, will appear on program with the Dixie Echoes, The Henson Family, and The Landmark Quartet Friday, July 28, at the City Auditorium in Jackson. They have just completed a tour of the Jackson area where they presented concerts in several churches. They have recorded with Crescendo Records of Dallas. The group is available for concerts by contacting: Slim Cornett (Director), c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 480 McCord Street, West Point, Ms. 39773, (Telephone 494-4421). Left to right: Stanley Ballard, Dixie Shirley, Dot Tribble, Charles Owens, Pat Cornett, Charlie Griffin, Virginia Farrar, Paula Davies, and Bob Farrar.



Just For The Record



HIGHLAND CHURCH, VICKSBURG, Youth Choir is on tour through Alabama, Georgia and Florida, July 22-28. The program consists of testimonies, scripture, solos, duets, special groups and music selections by various composers depicting the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The choir is under direction of David Grimsley, minister of music. G. Ray Ming is pastor.



OLD OAK GROVE (UNION COUNTY) near Myrtle will celebrate the completion of a new pastorage (pictured) by having homecoming day on Sunday, July 30. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. with special music under direction of Glenda Sanford, Harmon Jordan, and Anne Brownlee. Theo Wright, pastor at Mendenhall, former pastor at Old Oak Grove, will preach at 11 a.m. Church leaders will serve the noon meal on the grounds. Afternoon services will include singing, special music, and messages by other former pastors. To reduce the cost of the construction of the pastor's home, the people of the church in a cooperative effort completed the building in a short time.

New Haven Church near Weir will dedicate its new pastorage on Sunday, Aug. 6, at 1:30 p.m. Gwin Middleton, under whose pastorate the house was begun, will deliver the dedicatory message.

A revival begins on the same date. (See "Revival Dates.")

Groundbreaking for the pastorage was held on the 90th anniversary of New Haven Church, Sept. 5, 1976. All labor on the house was given free, and special offerings made it possible for the building to be finished without the church being in debt for it. The family of the late Mrs. Alice Sims William Hammond of Itta Bena, a native of the community, provided a memorial fund in her honor.

Pastor J. C. Hawthorne and his wife moved into the house April of this year.

Lunch will be served at the church before the dedication service. Open house will be held after the dedication.



RIVERPORT CHURCH, GREENVILLE held a recognition service on June 11 for the Girls in Action. Awards were presented to (left to right) Nicki Stevens, Melinda Lindsay, Tami Hodges, Vonda Bell, Terri Jones, Patricia Lindsay, and Angela Hambrick. Leaders are Mrs. Agnes Martin and Mrs. Cathy Lindsay. The theme of the service was "Serve Him with Gladness."

Roy Collum, director of evangelism, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will preach Sunday morning, July 30, at Bowlin Church, Attala County, on the topic, "Personal Evangelism."

This will be the last of a series of sermons on evangelism that the Bowlin congregation has heard recently. The pastor, Walter Hines, has been preaching for several Sunday nights on "The Evangelistic Church."

July 30 also will be Building Fund day at Bowlin. Dinner will be served on the grounds. Sunday School begins at 10 and morning worship at 11.

Collum has served pastorates in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, and before beginning work with the Convention Board in 1970 was with First Church, Philadelphia.

Ross Receives M. Div. From Southwestern

James E. (Jimmy) Ross of Pelahatchie was graduated July 14 with a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth. His name was omitted from a list received earlier from the seminary.

Ross is a son of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Ross Jr., who are members of Pelahatchie Baptist Church in Pelahatchie.



First, Oxford Dedicates Handbells

First Church, Oxford dedicated its handbells on Sunday, July 2. The 37-piece set of Schulerich handbells were given to the church by Bill Elliott, Jr. and Carolyn Elliot Carter in honor of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Elliott. The church's Youth Handbell Choir rang several numbers as part of the dedication service. Sharing in the time of dedication was the Youth Chorale from First Church, Hattiesburg, Jim Hayes, minister of music. The Chorale presented a concert of sacred music following the act of dedication of the bells. Left to right — Gary Carter, Mrs. Gary Carter, Richard Elliott, Mrs. Richard Elliott, Bill Elliott, Mrs. Bill Elliott, Lewis Sewell, pastor.

Devotional

How Big Is Your Church?

By Millard Bennett, Pastor, First, Inverness

If we are going to apply the idea of measuring a man's heart and not his head to see the size of his Christian life, we must apply the same standards in the measurement of a church. The size of your church is probably one of the first questions many people are apt to ask.

In Baptist circles we tend to apply the Madison Avenue standard of success — the criteria adopted by the advertising industry. The pastor serving a congregation of 2,000 members is thought to be more gifted and able than the man who serves the church of 200.

The nature of a community, the inner life of the church, the potential for growth, and the dedication of its members are rarely considered. The man whose church shows spectacular growth in a booming community is sited as an example of evangelistic effectiveness. But the man in the declining inner city situation may be doing a far greater and more sufficient work for the Lord Jesus Christ. The pastor serving in the small church is seldom if ever recognized. Are we saying anything to this man about the size of his church?

Such success standards have scant meaning for the church of the living God. Yet, in their concern for program and activity, popularity and respectability, names and numbers, many have lost the New Testament perspective and are living on the spiritual momentum of their forefathers. Could it be said of us that we have been physiological Christians long after we have been theological ones?

In many places today we go through the motion, but lack the meaning because we have become like those of whom Paul warned "having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof" (II Timothy 3:5).

God's concern for numerical bigness is never as great as his desire for spiritual greatness. The acid test of authenticity as a church of the living God is the presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of its members.

You may have a different idea about the thing that makes a church great. God has one expression — the presence and power of the Holy Spirit living, reigning, dominating the lives of its members. There was no doubt about the truth of this statement in the life of the early church. The size of your church depends upon its spirit. We praise God for that truth!

New Swimming Pool Is Open At Camp Lakeside (Tallahatchie)

Camp Lakeside, a coeducational Christian camp owned and operated by Tallahatchie Baptist Association, has a new swimming pool in operation this summer. The 1978 camping program is at its peak with record enrollments in each age group.

This is the first year that the camp has had a swimming pool, Danny Kellum, camp director, says. In past years campers went by bus daily to nearby Grenada Lake for swimming. The lake at Camp Lakeside is ideal for canoeing, but swimming activities cannot be easily supervised there, Kellum added.

The camp, founded in 1960, is ten miles south of Charleston in the hill section of Tallahatchie County.

Other activities include riflery, baseball, handicrafts, weight lifting, archery, horseback riding, photography, track, basketball, campcraft, nature lore, volleyball, soccer, and tether ball. Campers may be age 7 through 17.

"We feel that our purpose is to serve God through Christian camping," Kellum says. "For this reason our program of sports, skills, and activities is centered around the life and love of Jesus Christ."

Camp facilities besides the lake and pool include modern cypress cabins with air conditioning and hot showers, hiking and horse trails, dining and recreation lodge, five-acre sports field, and 60 acres of woods.

The senior staff is composed of college age men and women. A junior staff is made up of high school juniors and seniors.

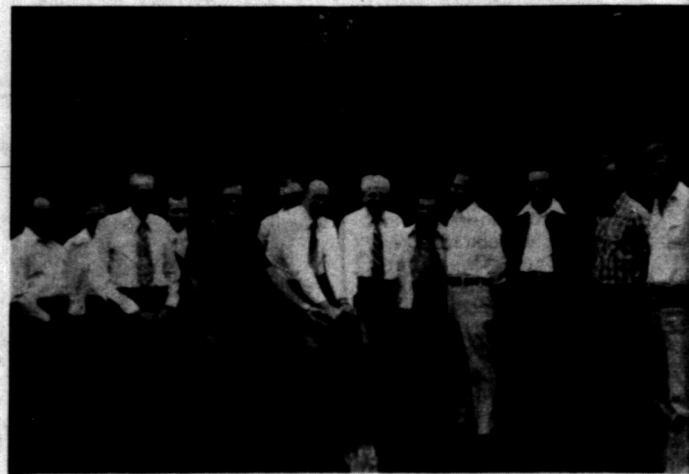
The initial 30 acres for the campsite was given to the association by Mrs. H. H. Dogan of Sumner and her son, H. H. Dogan, Jr.

During the 1977 camping year there were 61 professions of faith and 32 rededications. A total of 394 campers and 127 day campers attended.

Among the campers were 16 from the Baptist Children's Village. People of Tallahatchie County provided scholarships for these children.

The day camping program was added last year, and 127 enrolled. A bus made scheduled stops each day to bring the children to camp. Day camp dates this summer are in progress now — from July 1 to August 4. Between 125 and 150 children are expected for this day camping session.

The association operates under the foster missions program of the Department of Cooperative Missions, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Finley Evans of Grenada is the foster missionary.



A new swimming pool is now in operation at Camp Lakeside in Tallahatchie Association. Those who broke ground for the pool are left to right: Jamie Shook; Foman Musselwhite; Rafe Ellenburg; Phil Raney; Danny Kellum, camp director; Eugene Champion; Lee Ferrell, moderator; Wash Walters, Steering Committee chairman; Bim Savage, Edgar Fox; Thomas Deaton; Stanley Nowell; and Jess Pinkston, pool contractor.

Uniform Lesson Instructing Church Leaders

By Jackie C. Hamilton
Highland, Meridian
Acts 20:17-21, 25-28, 32-38

The old farmer said it his way when he stated, "God didn't save us to sit, down and sit, but to get up and get." He was denouncing the policy of "dipping and dropping" new Christians in favor of the pattern of Paul's ministry which involved not only repentance and faith in Jesus as Messiah and Lord, but also the importance of and the need to care for the church. It included the need for Christian growth here and the hope for eternal inheritance hereafter.

In late A.D. 57 and early 58, Paul was hurrying to Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost so he could share with his people, the Jews, in this great thanksgiving event. Though time did not permit Paul to stop at Ephesus, he did have a layover at the seaport of Miletus, thirty to thirty-five miles south of the city. From there he sent for the Ephesian elders, the guides and guardians of the church, with whom he had labored for over two years. It was

Paul's practice to maintain contact with the churches and to encourage them to remain faithful to their assigned tasks.

When the elders arrived, a meeting was held where Paul delivered his only address to Christians that is recorded in Acts. The same message was the only one which Luke, the recorder of Paul's missionary travels, actually heard Paul preach.

The Past (Acts 20:17-21)

At the end of the apostle's third journey into Greece and Asia Minor, he held a farewell meeting with the Ephesian elders. Paul was aware of the dangers he incurred in going to Jerusalem, so his message — perhaps his final one — encouraged the elders to maintain a personal commitment to the truth and to its perpetration. He also reminded them of his personal ministry, exhorted them to allow his pattern to serve as their guide, and encouraged them to be faithful in their responsibilities for the spiritual welfare of the church in the days ahead.

Paul had preached in the synagogue, at a public lecture hall, and from house to house. He used every opportunity to advance the cause of the "Lord Jesus Christ," a term used by Paul more than any other New Testament person. He stressed the acceptance of Christ as both Savior and Lord in his messages which always dealt with the common condition of all men: the guilt of sin and the need for forgiveness. Thus repentance and faith were to be joined if the sinner desire pardon.

The Future (Acts 20:25-28)

Paul reminded the elders of their critical responsibility to preserve and strengthen the life and vitality of the church. He spoke of his personal example as a faithful watchman who preached "the whole counsel of God." Then he reminded his friends not only of their service in meeting the needs of the people, but also of their accountability to God as they provided oversight and feeding for God's flock. The Farewell (Acts 20:32-38)

In closing, Paul entrusted the

church to God's care and again reminded the elders of his own sacrificial work among them. God's Word, which was largely in oral form, would provide the foundation for the development and flowering that God desired for his people. Paul's own unselfish labors provided a record beyond reproach. It is then that Paul makes a beautiful statement that abbreviates many of Jesus' teachings and serves as the guiding principle of his life: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35b).

The tender closing scene shows Paul sharing his devotional life with the church leaders of Ephesus. Their concern and love for Paul and their sorrow at his departure is clear evidence of the quality and impact of his teachings and life.

Now as then, church leaders need to give encouragement which motivates growth. Christians need to lean and accept their need for continued instruction. They need to claim Jesus as Lord as well as Savior.

Off The Record

Two fellows were arguing: "Does a slice of bread fall with the buttered side up or down?" Al said, "With the buttered side down!" Bill said, "With the buttered side up!" So they made a bet. Al buttered a slice of bread, raised it, and let it drop. It fell — buttered side up. "I win!" cried Bill. "Only because I made a mistake," protested Al. "What mistake?" "I buttered the wrong side."

"And remember," said the boss, "your salary is personal and should not be discussed with anyone."

"Oh, don't worry, sir. I'm just as ashamed of it as you are."

Frantically the housewife dialed the plumber's phone number. "A pipe has broken," she told him, weeping. "My kitchen is flooded!"

"I'll be right over," he promised. Then, hearing more sobs at the other end of the wire, he added, "Listen, lady, crying will only make it worse!"



RICHARD DAVIS has joined the staff of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, as minister of youth and activities. He and his wife, Nan, above, were welcomed with a reception and pouncing on Sunday, June 25. Mrs. Joe Dragula, left, pinned a corsage on Nan before the reception.

Davis was born at Toccoa, Ga. Son of Mrs. Tyrus Davis and the late Tyrus Davis, he is a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary. Nan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Davis, missionaries to Ghana. The couple moved to Temple from First Church, Poplarville, where he was minister of youth.

Slater Murphy, senior at William Carey College, began his duties on July 2 as the new organist of Temple Church. V. L. Stanfield is interim pastor.